

Message Text

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ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 AF-08 NEA-10 ISO-00 CAB-02 CIAE-00 COME-00

DODE-00 DOTE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 CIEP-01 FAA-00 MCT-01

SY-05 IO-13 SS-15 NSC-05 SP-02 L-03 TRSE-00 /080 W

----- 125311

R 151527Z SEP 76

FM AMEMBASSY ACCRA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4389

INFO AMCONSUL CASABLANCA

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CASABLANCA FOR RCAA

E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: EAIR, GH

SUBJECT: INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT SECURITY

REF: (A) STATE 212490 (NOTAL) (B) ACCRA 4153 (NOTAL)

1. IN RECENT MEETING WITH DIRECTOR OF CIVAIR (DWEMOH), COMMERCIAL ATTACHE NOTED USG CONCERN WITH AIRPORT SECURITY, ESPECIALLY IN TRANSIT FACILITIES, IN LIGHT OF RECENT INCIDENT AT ISTANBUL AIRPORT. ACCORDING TO DWEMOH, CIVAIR ATTEMPTS TO KEEP SECURITY PROCEDURES IN ACCORDANCE WITH ICAO STANDARDS AND RECOMMENDED PRACTICES, AS PER ANNEX 17. HE ADMITTED WEAKNESSES IN SYSTEM, HOWEVER. HE SPECIFICALLY NOTED THAT BORDER GUARDS, ONE OF THE FOUR ELEMENTS OF THE GHANA ARMED FORCES, THOUGH SERVING AS GUARDS AT AIRPORT, DO NOT FALL UNDER CIVAIR CONTROL. ALSO, CUSTOMS OFFICIALS AT AIRPORT REPORT TO CUSTOMS SERVICE, NOT TO CIVAIR.

2. IN REPLY TO REF A, PARA 3, GATES GIVING ACCESS TO APRON ARE OFTEN OPEN AND UNGUARDED. GUARDS, WHEN PRESENT, DO NOT ALWAYS EFFECTIVELY CONTROL ACCESS. THERE ARE MANY DOORS IN TERMINAL, FROM ONE AREA TO ANOTHER AND TO OUTSIDE. THESE DOORS ARE

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FREQUENTLY OPEN AND UNGUARDED. HERE AGAIN, PRESENCE OF GUARD NOT

NECESSARILY EFFECTIVE CONTROL. MOST GUARDS ARE UNARMED.
THUS, IT IS POSSIBLE FOR UNAUTHORIZED PERSONS TO GAIN ACCESS TO
TRANSIT LOUNGE OF MOST ANY PART OF TERMINAL.

3. SECURITY PERSONNEL HAVE BEEN TRAINED AT FAA CENTER IN
OKLAHOMA CITY AND EMBASSY WILL CONTINUE TO URGE CIVAIR TO TAKE
ADVANTAGE OF THESE COURSES. WOULEBE WILLING TO APPROACH GOG
ABOUT VISIT OF SECURITY SPECIALIST TO PROVIDE ADVICE AND TECHNICAL
ASSISTANCE ON AIRPORT SECURITY PROVIDED THERE IS ADEQUATE LEAD
TIME AND PRESENTATION IS HIGH LEVEL AND WELL ADAPTED TO LOCAL
CONDITIONS. DEPARTMENT MAY RECALL, REF B, THAT LATEST FAA
SECURITY VISIT WAS NOT COORDINATED WITH POST. LINEHAN

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Message Attributes

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